



AGENCY REPORT

for

Metro Nashville Arts Commission Meeting

August 20, 2015

Metro Office Building 2nd floor, Davidson Conference Room

800 2nd Avenue South, Nashville

Commissioners: Jane Alvis, Dr. Ruth Ross Edmonds, Laurie Eskin, Matt Fischer, Don Hardin, Clay Haynes, Larry Keeton, Meg MacFadyen, Joseph (Pepe) Presley, Stephanie Pruitt, Marielena Ramos, Paula Roberts, Hope Stringer, Santi Tefel, and Sherry West

Overall Action Items:

- Election of 2015-2016 Officers
- THRIVE Program Awards
- Bike Rack Design

Improve the Creative Workforce

1. Programs

- Bellevue Library —Due to library patron requests for better access to the artwork, staff is working with the architect and landscape architect to determine an additional path in front of the artwork. That plan has been approved and General Services is managing the work. Repair work on the paver surround, managed by Metro Arts, will begin in mid-August.
- Bike Racks Phase II — *Good Eats!* (Whisk) has been installed in the right of way near the 21st Ave. and Broadway intersection.
- Bike Racks Phase III—The PAC and Commission approved three of the five bike rack designs recommended by the selection panel. Due to concerns regarding feasibility, safety and artistic merit, *Ground Ball* and *Together We Rise* were not approved. Staff consulted with Procurement and determined the two artists selected by the panel, but not approved by the PAC could respond to Metro Arts' design concerns within the current procurement. **The artist's responses to the design concerns are an action item.** The three approved artists met with the fabricator on July 17th to further develop their designs. Staff is currently working toward finalizing contracts for approved artists.
- Civil Rights Public Art Project — Artist Walter Hood is finalizing photo selections and working with prototypes to determine concrete techniques for the final design of *Witness Walls*. Staff recently generated a comprehensive community update via an e-newsletter. Update was posted on the website and via a USPS mailing to Civil Rights Veterans who do not have email. Artwork fabrication/installation is expected to be in 2016. Walter Hood has accepted an invitation to speak at the 2015 TedX Salon Creo event on October 24 at Belmont University. If his schedule permits, staff will plan a public meeting about *Witness Walls* while the artist is in Nashville.
- Community Centers (Madison Park and Smith Springs Park) — Staff are working closely with Park staff and design team to craft a plan for public art. One idea being considered is to combine \$80,000 playground budget with the \$70,000 Public Art budget for each center. Smith Springs site is more conducive to nature play and that the Madison site is super active and would be a very good site for playable public art. The conversation will continue over the next few months.
- KVB —Installation is set to begin in mid-September. Staff is currently working with artist's project team on traffic plan and final details.
- West Riverfront Park — *Light Meander* installation is completed. Artists were here this week to finalize lighting programming and for public meet and greet. Feedback from the public has been positive.
- Maintenance of Public Art Collection — Civic has presented the online maintenance system to staff. The initial roll out included a technical inspection of all artworks in the collection resulting in detailed status reports, baseline photographs and a short list of artworks that need maintenance attention. Overall the collection is in great shape. Staff is managing the process for getting bids on needed work.
- Metro Arts Grants —We trained 27 citizens as panelists, and 25 served on grant panels in May. 32% of the panelists represented people of color, and 20 council districts were represented.

- Arts Build Communities Grant Program — 7 citizens served during the August 10 review panel meeting that determined \$25,160 in grants awards.
- THRIVE Micro-funding Program — One pre-approval proposal was invited to apply and is being presented to the commission for funding consideration this month.

2. Partnerships & Policies

- Artober Nashville — Monthly Arttober Community Partner meetings offer professional training and development opportunities through special topic presentations. We currently have 479 subscribers to the Arttober community partner email list.
- MNPS — Laurel attended the partner summit for our Pencil Partnership for Hunter's Lane High School International Baccalaureate Academy and is working the school personnel to finalize engagement activities for the academic year.

3. Tools

- National Endowment for the Arts—Staff received notice we have been awarded \$75,000 to create the THRIVE Learning Lab with Lipscomb's Andrews Institute for Civic Leadership.
- Metro Arts is listed on www.mnpscapstone.org, a hub of internship and job shadow opportunities for MNPS students.
- Metro Arts Grants — Staff has been providing feedback to applicants and hosting consultations with non-funded applicants.
- Arts Build Communities Grants — \$25,160 in grants were awarded to 14 organizations, of which two were new grantees.
- Artist Directory—The Directory is a resource utilized by the creative class and consumers in the community. There are over 350 profiles in the directory.
- Arts Buzz — The monthly Arts Buzz e-newsletter informs artists and creatives about local, regional and national opportunities for calls, auditions, fellowships, jobs & more. There are currently 1,061 subscribers.

Increase Creative Participation

1. Programs

- Our Town —Final payments for Phase 1 have been processed. Staff has been working with artist Bryce McCloud to identify Phase 2 event locations. Confirmed locations include Cumberland Park on September 18th, Nashville Public Library October 16th & 17th and Oz Art Nashville December 7th-10th.
- Bonnaroo Works Fund Grant- Metro Arts received a \$4,000 grant which is being used to commission local writers, poets, song writers and sound artists to create sound or literary works inspired by Metro Arts Public Art collection or the Art in Public Places collection. Metro Arts staff received 21 submissions and chose seven finalists based on their project proposals and previous work examples. The selected artists are Chance Chambers (poet), Sara Estes (creative writer), Christopher Farrell (composer/musician), Robbie Lynn Hunsinger (sound artist), William Moon (composer/musician) Catherine Moore (poet) and Joe Nolan (musician/song writer). The selected artists proposed works inspired by *Emergence*, *Needle and Thread*, *Light Meander*, *Liquid 615*, *On Air*, *Reflections* and *Tool Fire*.
- Metro Arts Grants —A total of \$4,235,524 in grant funds were requested by 53 nonprofit organizations in 83 grant applications for FY16 activities and operations.
- Arts Build Communities —ABC grants provide support for arts projects that broaden access to arts experiences, address community quality of life issues through the arts, or enhance the sustainability of asset-based cultural enterprises. \$25,160 in grants were awarded to 14 nonprofit organizations in Davidson County in support a variety of projects including a visual art program with professional artists mentoring youth from the juvenile justice system; craft demonstrations by local artists; high-quality music and cultural

education for Nashville's homeless population; a locally-developed theatre production that addresses issues surrounding mental illness; and much more. Funded projects and activities will take place between August 16, 2015 and June 15, 2016.

2. Partnerships & Policies

- Creative City: Racial Equity, Creativity and Community Series - In a partnership with Curb Center for Art, Enterprise & Public Policy we will launch REAL a year-long Racial Equity and Arts Leadership learning cadre that will include a series of 3 national speakers who will initiate thought provoking, high level, real-world stories of their work/transformation; a small group of community/cultural leaders to be part of a 9-month moderated discussion that meets monthly and explores how cultural organizations are dealing with racial/economic ; and a Symposia that provides shared learning via lectures, panels, and open platform webinars for Curb Scholars, the learning cadre, and select placemaking, community and cultural policy leaders. Graduate student Jyoti Gupta conducted baseline research this summer around equity/access/inclusion issues within our major cultural institutions and is compiling a report with data that will help shape our learning cadre.
- Nashville Arts Magazine —Staff continues to work with Nashville Arts Magazine to include monthly columns on the public art collection, arts education, and community arts activities in Nashville.
- ULI— Staff is serving on the Urban Land Institute Urban Magnets and Young Leaders committee and working to integrate the arts into discussions about Nashville's growth and development. Staff is working with ULI leadership to conduct programs this fall focused on Building a Creative City and maker spaces.
- Nashville Convention Visitor's Corporation—Jen/Rebecca continue to engage in conversations with NCVV staff on how to better integrate arts scene into tools, online maps and visitor center education.
- Arts Build Communities – As a designated agency, staff continues to work with the TAC in administering the ABC grants program.
- Ayers Institute— The Witness Walls teacher cadre has concluded. All 6 lesson plans can be found on our web site. The teacher cadre and professional development day was funded by a grant from the Tennessee Arts Commission.
- Pencil Foundation—Metro Arts is pairing with Shimai Gallery to develop a teacher externship for teachers from Bellevue Middle School (art, band, orchestra). Program will result in project-based learning that engages students with public art.

3. Tools

- ExploreNashvilleArt.com Mobile site— Recent updates to the site include neighborhood-based gallery tours and several new murals have been added to Art in Public Places. Staff historian (Anne-Leslie) is doing some research and adding interesting info to the Art in Public Places artworks pages.
- Classroom Resources – Staff updated the [Metro Arts website](#) to include a full compilation of curriculum guides and teacher resources focused on public artworks.
- Arts Build Communities – Staff is in the process of collecting revised budgets and executing contracts for the 14 grants awarded for FY16.

Improve Creative Quality & Innovation

1. Programs

- Metro Arts Grants—Staff hosted two focus group meetings with grantees in July to solicit input and collect information concerning user experience, communication effectiveness and customer service. An executive summary is being drafted to present the findings.
- THRIVE —Provides funding for artists to execute artistic vision through innovative projects that engage community and impact neighborhoods.

2. Partnerships & Policies

- Jen worked with the Nashville Chamber to secure funding for a study on cultural infrastructure and activation throughout the county. This research project, called *Culture Here* is well underway.
- The Artisan Manufacturing bill was approved on August 4. This bill improves upon zoning allowances for artisan manufacturing.

Operations

1. Staff Management and Development

- Jen was invited by PolicyLink, a national policy think tank to attend a meeting in June in Chicago about the importance of local cities arts and municipal policy.
- Jen invited to participate in National Arts Leadership Forum in Sundance
- The Public Art team is hosting high school intern, Sydney Lewis, who attends University School. She's working on various projects including the ExploreNashvilleArt.com site. Sydney will be working with us through Artober.
- Caroline presented and participated in a panel discussion Saturday, August 15 for the Cumberland Furniture Guild on "How to Make the Leap to Public Art."

2. Finance

3. Media

4. External Affairs

- Organizing local creative economy tours for the National League of Cities Convention being hosted in Nashville in 2015.
- Metro Arts is preparing a briefing document for both Metro Council members and new Mayor

5. Community Leadership

- Arts & Business Council Programming Advisory Committee - Rebecca
- ULI Urban Magnets-Caroline
- PAN Council-Caroline
- Curb Center Creative Catalyst - Rebecca
- Hunters Lane IB Academy Business Partner Council-Rebecca & Laurel
- FutureReady Nashville - Rebecca
- Nashville Film Television Transmedia Council – Jen/Rebecca
- Urban States Arts Federation Executive Board—Jen
- OZ Arts Advisory Council-Jen
- Vanderbilt Engineering Maker Spaces Committee--Jen
- Music Makes Us Advisory Council-Jen
- Leadership Tennessee-Jen
- Americans for the Arts Advisory Committee on Transforming America's Communities
- TEDxNashville-Jen/Rebecca
- Lipscomb University-Arts Leadership Academy
- 5th Avenue of the Arts - Rebecca

Financial Report

FY2016 Summary Report 8/13/2015

	Budget	Actual	Remaining	Notes
Metro Salaries	\$403,400	\$40,357	\$363,043	
Total Salaries	\$403,400	\$40,357	\$363,043	Includes COLA, Open Range and Step Increases. Increase of \$22,500 from FY15
Total Fringes	\$148,900	\$14,446	\$134,454	Decrease of \$2,700 from FY15
Total Operational	\$174,500	\$13,797	\$160,703	Increase of \$50,800 from FY15
Total Internal Services	\$33,300	\$300	\$33,000	Increase of \$900 from FY15
Total TAC MCI Grant (Operating)	\$65,500	\$0	\$65,500	Decrease of \$6,000 from FY15
Total TAC ABC Admin	\$4,440	\$0	\$4,440	No change in ABC Grant Award
Total TAC ABC Re grants	\$25,160	\$0	\$25,160	
Total Metro Arts Grant Contributions	\$1,910,200	\$0	\$1,910,200	Restored funding level, Increase of \$17,500 from FY15
TOTALS For FY2016	\$2,765,400	\$68,900	\$2,696,500	
	Accrued Balance	Actual	Remaining	Notes
Special Purpose Fund	\$73,235	\$455	\$72,780	Balance Includes \$10,000 5/3 Bank Sponsorship for FY16
	Accrued Balance	Actual	Remaining	Notes
Convention Fund	\$39,395	\$0	\$39,395	

Financial Report

Percent for Public Art Fund Report

8/17/2015

Revenues

Capital Spending Plan 2001	\$473,991
Capital Spending Plan 2002	\$413,319
Capital Spending Plan 2003	\$1,164,191
Capital Spending Plan 2005	\$487,367
Capital Spending Plan 2006	\$643,311
Capital Spending Plan 2007	\$1,253,687
Capital Spending Plan 2008	\$647,050
Capital Spending Plan 2009	\$1,267,300
MTA Bus Stop Credit for Twenty Eighth Avenue Connector	\$29,772
Capital Spending Plan 2011, 2013	\$2,568,500
Total Revenues	\$8,948,488

Total Expenditures	(\$5,100,552)
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Subtotal	\$3,847,936
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Encumbrances

Funds Assigned to Bellevue Library	(\$45,998)
Funds Assigned to Bike Racks, Phase 2	(\$7,976)
Funds Assigned to Bike Racks, Phase 3	(\$249,550)
Funds Assigned to Civil Rights Public Art Project	(\$119,838)
Funds Assigned to KVB	(\$740,175)
Funds Assigned to Madison Park Community Center	(\$98,000)
Funds Assigned to Our Town Project (Bryce McCloud)	(\$25,672)
Funds Assigned to Public Art Master Plan	(\$150,000)
Funds Assigned to Public Square - Civil Rights Project	(\$369,629)
Funds Assigned to Smith Springs Park	(\$98,000)
Funds Assigned to Southeast Area Library & Community Center	(\$49,465)
Funds Assigned to West Riverfront Park	(\$154,541)
Funds Assigned to Capital Maintenance	(\$50,000)
Funds Assigned to Staff Administration	(\$291,208)
Total Encumbrances	(\$2,450,051)

Total Available Funds	\$1,397,885
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Grant Dollars at Work – September 2015

For additional information see www.nowplayingnashville.com

Actors Bridge Ensemble	Basic Operating Support - \$13,250	<i>Hearts Like Fists</i>
Adventure Science Center	Arts Access Support - \$ 3,125	<i>Identity: An Exhibition of You</i>
Belcourt Theatre	Basic Operating Support - \$ 130,500	<i>Second Saturday Outdoor Cinema: Village of the Damned</i>
Cheekwood	Basic Operating Support - \$ 118,183	<i>Spanish Wine & Tapas</i>
Country Music Hall of Fame	Basic Operating Support - \$ 129,000	<i>Ronnie Milsap: A Legend In My Time</i>
Frist Center for the Visual Arts	Basic Operating Support - \$ 130,500	<i>Italian Style: fashion Since 1945</i>
Nashville Ballet	Basic Operating Support - \$ 129,000	<i>Peter Pan</i>
Nashville Children's Theatre	Basic Operating Support - \$ 88,000	<i>Einstein Is A Dummy</i>
Nashville Jazz Workshop	Basic Operating Support - \$ 49,925	<i>Snap On 2&4 w/ Anthony Belfiglio</i>
Nashville Repertory Theatre	Basic Operating Support - \$ 68,000	<i>Rapture, Blister, Burn</i>
Nashville Shakespeare Festival	Basic Operating Support - \$ 55,000	<i>Shakespeare in the Park / Henry V</i>
Nashville Symphony	Basic Operating Support - \$ 118,183	<i>Vivaldi's Four Seasons</i>
Street Theatre Company	Basic Operating Support - \$ 16,200	<i>Heathers The Musical: What's Your Damage?</i>
Tennessee Craft	Basic Operating Support - \$ 43,000	<i>Tennessee Craft Fall Fair</i>
Tennessee Performing Arts Center	Basic Operating Support - \$ 127,500	<i>Dirty Dancing-The Classic Story on Stage</i>
Watkins College of Art, Design & Film	Basic Operating Support - \$ 118,183	<i>Beyond Classification Photography & Video Exhibition Opening</i>

Media / Important Links

Nashville Post, July 2015, Metro Arts receives recognition,

https://www.nashvillepost.com/news/2015/7/30/on_the_move_30_july_2015

Nashville Post, July 2015, Metro Arts Joins National Pilot Program That Aims to Build Stronger Neighborhoods and Communities, <https://nashvilleartscritic.com/arts/metro-arts-pilot/>

Public Art

The Tennessean, June 24, 2015, [Cumberland River-inspired downtown Nashville sculpture installed](#)

Nashville Public Radio, June 23, 2015, [Nashville's Newest Sculpture Aims to Recapture Cumberland River's Old Glory.](#)

Community Arts/Engagement

Important Dates

Fri, Aug 21, 2015	10-11am	Artober Nashville Community Partner meeting
Wed, Sept 2, 2015	Noon	Grants Committee meeting
Thurs, Sept 10, 2015	1:30pm	PAC meeting
Thurs, Sept 17, 2015	Noon	Metro Arts Commission meeting